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- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): CHIL-DREN'S MEDICAL CENTER CORPORATION [US/US]; 55 Shattuck Street, Boston, MA 02110 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): ZON, Leonard, I. [US/US]; 6 Frost Circle, Wellesley, MA 02482 (US). DAVIDSON, Alan, J. [US/US]; 18 Pond Street #1, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 (US).
- (74) Agents: RESNICK, David, S. et al.; Nixon Peabody LLP, 101 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110 (US).
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(54) Title: METHOD OF ENHANCING PROLIFERATION AND/OR HEMATOPOIETIC DIFFERENTIATION OF STEM CELLS

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a method for enhancing the proliferation and/or hematopoietic differentiation and/or maintenance of mammalian stem cells. The method is useful for generating expanded populations of hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs) and thus mature blood cell lineages. This is desirable where a mammal has suffered a decrease in hematopoietic or mature blood cells as a consequence of disease, radiation or chemotherapy. The method of the present invention comprises increasing the intracellular level of a *cdx* in stem cells, including hematopoietic stem cells, in culture, either by providing an exogenous *cdx* protein to the cell, or by introduction into the cell of a genetic construct encoding a *cdx*. The *cdx* is selected from the *cdx* family and includes *cdx1*, *cdx2*, or *cdx4*. The *cdx* may be a wild type protein appropriate for the species from which the cells are derived, or a mutant form of the protein.

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